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THE WONDER FERN.—Last winter, in Toledo, Ohio, my hostess came from market one day bearing a paper package on which was printed "Aqua, The Wonder Fern." Inside was a printed slip: "It Grows in Water. Aqua, the Wonder Fern." Then a cut. Then "Easy to care for—Sure to grow. Guaranteed to live. It grows in water."

What do you think it was? Ten or a dozen stems of *Lycopodium lucidulum*, tightly tied together and cut off square, roots and all, so that it couldn't possibly grow in anything! Price, twenty-five cents.—M. A. MARSHALL, STILL RIVER, MASS.

A CORRECTION.—In assigning to the peculiar form of *Polypodium vulgare* described by Mr. Ridlon in a recent number of the Journal (Vol. 11, pp. 46–48) the name *rotundatum* the fact that Milde had long ago applied the same name to a European variety of *P. vulgare*—a quite different plant—was, unfortunately, overlooked. For this oversight, Mr. Ridlon was in no way responsible: he had not the necessary books at hand and left the searching of literature to me. A new name is required for the plant; it may, with reference to its much shortened pinnae, be called *Polypodium vulgare*, f. **brachypter-on** Ridlon.—C. A. WEATHERBY.

American Fern Society

The following letter from Mr. D. L. Topping to Prof. Hopkins, used here by the latter's permission, should interest our members:

"It is a far cry from Siberia, but I think that my last contribution to the Society's herbarium was from Borneo, and now I am sending in this mail a small donation from Siberia. In the spring of 1919, as I

was thinking of a trip to the U. S., there came a call from the Red Cross in Siberia for help, and so I volunteered and spent about eight months there, being stationed in Vladivostok all the time. It was not all "battle, murder and sudden death" with us in Vladivostok, so what little spare time I could get I devoted to collecting. I must say it is not a fern lover's paradise; in fact the only fern I found in any abundance was an old time friend, *Osmunda cinnamomea*. I did occasionally run across a few plants of *Adiantum pedatum*, *Polypodium vulgare*, *Pteris aquilina*, *Camptosorus rhizophyllus*, etc., and I have about 30 specimens to add to the herbarium which I am leaving you to name up.

What the country about Vladivostok lacked in ferns it made up in flowering plants; in all my wanderings, excepting on some of the mountain meadows of Switzerland, I have never seen such a profusion of bloom: azaleas, buttercups, marsh marigolds, violets, iris, lilies, primroses, peonies, forget-me-nots, columbine, poppies, gentians, roses, orchids, syringas, spiraea, blue bells, clematis, fire weed and so on through the whole list, together with many things which were strange to me. On Russian Island, lying off in front of the harbor, there were lilies of the valley by the acre as fine and as fragrant as our garden variety; and one day at Fortress No. 6 I gathered an armful of cypripediums, one brilliant pink and the other a maroon and yellow. Late in the season the asters along the sea shore made a wonderful display with the very large flowers in all the shades of blue and pink.

Vladivostok has one of the most magnificent situations for a city that I have ever seen and if man would only "cease from troubling" I know of no place where a more delightful summer could be spent

Last month I finished my 19 years in the tropics and am planning to return to the U. S. this fall: just where I shall next dabble in fern collecting I cannot say. . . ."

Mary Lowrey Anderson, daughter of John A. and Cornelia E. Coryell Anderson, was born January 13th, 1860, and died July 17th, 1921, at her home in Lambertville, N. J.

Her church and social duties, her philanthropic and civic work in her home town, occupied much of her time but in her leisure hours few things attracted her more than botanical pursuits.

Here, in the beautiful Delaware valley, her interest in plants began in early childhood, when it was the custom of the family to explore the woods in all directions, within driving distance, in search of flowers and ferns. In later years summers spent in New England, the North Woods, the Rocky Mountains and winters in the southern states, California, the Riviera and a spring and summer in Italy and Switzerland, where always the flora of the country was of absorbing interest, intensified her love of botany.

She assisted in the collection of fungi and mosses, a large number of which were photographed and colored by members of her family. The illustrations in "The Mushroom Book" and "The Moss Book" are a part of these collections.

Her interest in the special study of ferns began a few years ago when her attention was drawn to some fern gardens planted at Buck Hill Falls, Pa., and she began to collect and plant in her own garden, ferns to be found in her vicinity.

She had been a member of the Society since 1916.

Again the editors have to ask the members to be patient with the delays in issuing the JOURNAL. Everyone concerned is, we are sure, doing the best he can; but the troubles in the printing trade are not yet over and and it takes a very long time to put the JOURNAL through the press. We are little, if any, worse off than many other scientific periodicals; and we hope for improvement soon.

With this number we return to our pre-war habit of publishing at least one illustration in each issue.

Either because of errors or of information received too late to be included, the following changes should be made in the recently issued list of members:-

Ackley, Mrs. H. C., not N. C.

Huss, J. F., 303 Sargeant St., Hartford, Conn.

Lenington, Mrs. Julia, R. D. 2, Pomona, Cal.

Lillibridge, Miss Amey A., 86 Wheeler Ave., Edgewood, R. I.

New members:

Punchard, Mrs. H., 14 Dana St., Brookline, Mass.

Word has been received of the deaths of Miss Agnes Wyman Lincoln and Mr. William Palmer.